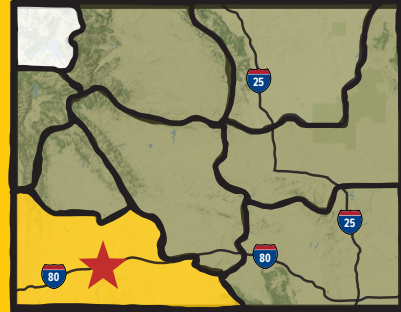


FISHING AROUND SOUTHWEST WYOMING

Regional fishing opportunities near Green River, Boulder and Kemmerer.



You can work toward the following youth fishing challenges on these trips:

- Wild One
- Habitat Counts
- Cool Catch
- Trout Trio



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT



How many days do you have to fish in southwest Wyoming?

1 Day

Are you looking for an excellent day of shore fishing in southwest Wyoming? Then head down to **Flaming Gorge Reservoir**. Flaming Gorge is a great trout fishery where 16 inch and larger trout are regularly caught from shore! Rainbow, cutthroat, and lake trout can be caught to complete the “Trout Trio” challenge. Shore fishing is best from mid October through early June. Casting spoons and spinners from shore produces great results, as does fly fishing with a white or black streamer. If you are looking for a more relaxed approach, try suspending a nightcrawler or dead minnow off the bottom. Head south out of the city of Green River on Highway 530 for about 20 miles and you will find miles of shoreline to fish on Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

2 Days

It's time to hook up the boat and head north to another reservoir located on the Green River. **Fontenelle Reservoir**, located approximately 10 miles south of LaBarge provides great fishing for rainbow trout, brown trout, and kokanee salmon. Trolling with wedding rings, spoons, and spinners from the surface down to 10 feet should provide plenty of action in the spring. With fewer boaters on Fontenelle than some of the other reservoirs in the region, you will have plenty of water to fish without playing bumper cars with other boats. Consider fishing for burbot after dark your first day to complete the “Wyoming’s Wild One” challenge. Vertical jigging luminescent tubes or spoons tipped with a piece of sucker meat works great for this species. After a day at Fontenelle, think about staying in one of the campgrounds on the Green River below Fontenelle Dam. Camp in the shade of cottonwoods at either Slate Creek or Weeping Rock campgrounds so you can get an early start fishing the **Green River**. Fly fishing or spinning gear work great in the river. If fly fishing is more your style, try nymph fishing with a strike indicator. Stripping olive or white woolly buggers works well for more active fish. Rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout are your likely catch, but it is not uncommon to pick up a whitefish, which will also count toward the “Wyoming’s Wild One” challenge.

3 Days

Load up the truck with camping and fishing gear for two fun filled nights in the wilds of the Big Sandy drainage. Head for the Big Sandy Opening in the Wind River Mountains east of Boulder. On your first day, hike in about a mile from the trailhead to **Meeks Lake** where you can catch tiger trout to complete your “Cool Catch” challenge and a third of the “Trout Trio” challenge. Later that day or the first thing the next morning, try **V Lake**, a neighbor to Meeks Lake, that supports brook and rainbow trout that are typically larger than the other trout you will find in the drainage. Day two, fish the **Big Sandy River** as you work your way up to the wilderness lakes at the headwaters of the Big Sandy. You can catch brook and brown trout to complete your “Trout Trio” challenge. After fishing **Meeks Lake** and the **Big Sandy River**, you are two thirds of the way to earning your “Habitat Counts” certificate; catch a fish from a beaver pond or small stream as you ascend the drainage to the upper lakes to complete this challenge. There are numerous lakes in the headwaters of the Big Sandy River that support healthy populations of brook trout. **Black Joe Lake** supports a self sustaining population of cutthroat trout. Find it and you can catch your third trout to complete the “Trout Trio” challenge if one of the other species eluded you in the river below or in one of the other lakes. Regardless of your fishing style, flies, spinners, or bait should work great in any of the lakes or streams you encounter that support fish. Make sure you bring plenty of supplies and a good pair of hiking boots!

Find out more

Want to get more information about the youth fishing challenges or their adult equivalents?

Visit the Wyoming Game and Fish Department fishing challenge website at wgfd.wyo.gov/Fishing-and-Boating/Fishing-Challenges

Or do you have questions about other fishing opportunities in southwest Wyoming, fishing locations or what the rules for fishing are?

Visit the Wyoming Game and Fish Department website at wgfd.wyo.gov or call the Green River office at 307-875-3223.